

Torrance Herald

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This Week's Motto:

In springtime, a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of pennant winners.

New Chamber Manager

Chamber Manager Don Reining, who assumed his duties here two weeks ago after transferring here from Lafayette, Ind., has become a welcome addition to the community in the short time he has been here.

Mr. Reining brings to Torrance an impressive background of service through his Chamber of Commerce work, and he has already impressed local officials with his quick understanding of the city's unique features.

Torrance is fortunate to acquire a man of his talents to lead its Chamber of Commerce through this dynamic period of the city's development.

With Reining's professional leadership, and with the solid backing of the city's business and industrial community, the Chamber of Commerce should continue to thrive in the manner that brought it national recognition last year.

Opinions of Others

How on earth can anyone in Washington know more about your own local community problems than you do? How can he have as much genuine concern about your welfare?—Grand Rapids (Mich.) Times.

American built more housing per capita in the 1920s when there were no Federal programs than at any time since. Today you'd think that if the U.S. didn't house us, we'd be living in caves, if you believe Washington talk. —Liberal (Kans.) Daily Times.

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.—Dewey (Okla.) Herald-Record.

Government has cost the railroads thousands of jobs by regulation, has denied the public better and lower cost transportation, has weakened the defense program, and has crippled the nation's economy by railroad restrictions and taxation.—Altoona (Pa.) Mirror.

During This Week

May 7, 1937 - The \$35 million, 4200-foot span, 220-foot high Golden Gate Bridge, joining San Francisco to Marin County, was opened.

May 8, 1884 - Harry S. Truman, future 33rd U. S. President, was born near Lamar, Mo. He was the seventh vice-president to become president, due to an incumbent's death.

May 9, 1825 - New York City's Chatham Garden and Theater became the first theater to use gas for illumination, as a practical experiment.

May 10, 1643 - America's first Colonial Government Union was organized, in Boston. The United Colonies of

New England was formed for co-operation in gospel truth, liberty, mutual safety, and welfare.

May 11, 1825 - America's initial national tract society was organized at New York City. The American Tract Society was formed to help people spiritually through publications.

May 12, 1390 - Louisiana's legislature passed America's initial prize fighting law, prohibiting the "crime of prize fighting," but not exhibitions.

May 13, 1857 - The Michigan Agricultural College became the world's first thorough one. It became Michigan State College in 1925. Now it is Michigan State University.

Burned Moth



From the Mailbox

By Our Readers

Some Old Tales

Editor, Torrance Herald
Recently I visited Denver, Colo. to see a brother whom I had not seen in almost 20 years. His wife, Irma, I had never met. Irma being a native Coloradan, told me some interesting stories of the early days.

When Irma was a baby her father was a prospector. On one of his trips while they were living in Colorado Springs, Irma's father (can not remember his name) and his partner—whose name I believe was Higgins—went into the mountains at a place now called Cripple Creek. One night they built their camp fire under an overhanging ledge of rock, which when heated began to turn colors and a certain mineral melted, proving that they had found a gold vein.

Next morning the partners staked out their claims. Irma's father being a married man who loved his family, returned to Colorado Springs to see that his family was not in want, expecting to return soon to work his claim, not knowing the ways of gold rushes. It was several weeks before he could leave his family and return to work his claim. Too late. Claim jumpers had taken over, and no more veins of gold could be found.

Mr. Higgins, the other partner, stayed on at his claim and worked it for several years, until he decided he had enough. Mr. Higgins told his bookkeeper and manager if

he could sell his claim for \$10 million dollars, he, the manager would get a commission, and the manager could have all he could get above \$10 million. The manager went to England, interested some men of finance, and sold the claim for \$11 million. The above story is authenticated by official records.

The next story probably should be classed as fiction, as every time I think about the tale, I want to sprinkle it good with salt and pepper. One morning while strolling through one of Denver's parks near the zoo, I engaged in conversation with a character who by his bearing would indicate he was many years past his three score and ten. The oldtimer seemed inclined to talk about the days of long ago when he was a young prospector, wandering through the canyons and mountains of Colorado. He told of the many near misses in finding a rich claim, and of the many escapes from Indians.

On one occasion oldtimer located a rich vein of ore and was getting ready to stake out his claim when he was surprised by a band of six Indians. The prospector retreated up the canyon and was followed by the Indians, firing with their rifles as they gave chase. Oldtimer soon found a narrow place in the canyon barely wide enough to walk through, which opened into a wider place with perpendicular walls which ended in a box. After killing five of the in-

dians, the sixth in retreating caused a rock slide which closed the narrow opening.

Oldtimer then stated: "you know, I never could find a way to get out of that canyon."

After waiting a moment and not hearing more I asked the inevitable question: "How did you get out?"

Oldtimer said: "I did not get out; I starved to death."
J. ROME GATELEY
(Editor's Note: Mr. Gateley, for many years a resident of Torrance, recently moved to Albuquerque, N. M., to make his home.)

Gains and Brains

By ESTEY I. REED

Many people throughout the world have forgotten that peace and quiet accomplish more than force. Nations' dictators have learned that lesson. Others shall. Many national politicians, mob leaders, labor leaders and court magistrates fail to remember that lesson. Everyone should take a good, long look at Nature. Then, all would know that great forces at work are the quiet ones. Gravitation is a silent worker, yet it holds planets in their orbits, moving them with unvarying precision. "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." (Isaiah 30:15)

Since the king had seldom before interfered in the everyday affairs of his people, he was ill-prepared to cope with the trouble his decision created. He soon discovered, first of all, that it was not enough to knock off the towers and wings of the employers' castles, scale down the moats and divide the bright colored fish. Soon the shoemakers themselves wanted larger castles, broader moats and more bright colored fish as well.

So the king was faced with what came to be called . . . a

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

A Fable With a Familiar Ring—Including a Moral

"The instinct of profit is in the nature of man."
... William James

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA . . . This is an imaginary story of an imaginary land and people. It has to do with the incentive of profit . . . and what might happen when that incentive is taken away. It has already happened in some countries we have covered for some 30 years around the world. They were once free . . . free to achieve, to create, to challenge, to profit. They didn't think it could happen to them. It did. It is already happening here.

Our story is about a once happy country, ruled by a king, who by his training and tradition did not believe in dictatorship, but chose to guide his people as per their desires and aspirations.

It was not entirely by chance that this country was prosperous and happy . . . for the people found the magic of success in non-interference by government and in making the best shoes to be found at a fair price. They took great pride in their craftsmanship . . . found better and better ways to make the best shoes at low cost. Over the years their fame spread far and wide. People clamored for their shoes, and they prospered . . . and everyone concerned was happy.

But in the midst of this prosperity something happened. One day one of the shoemakers walked by his employer's castle and noticed that it was much larger than his own, surrounded by a larger moat that had more brightly colored fish than his own. He passed the word around to his fellow workers who agreed to call it to the attention of their king.

The king was disappointed to learn that in his happy land there were people who were unhappy with their castles. So he summoned all the employers . . . who were surprised and angered, and told the king that while all men were born equal, they did not necessarily contribute equally to making shoes and therefore did not deserve equal rewards and equally bright colored fish.

The king listened patiently but in the end he was forced to conclude that there were many more of his people who were shoemakers than there were owners of shoe factories. He became concerned about his own castle and kingdom, so decreed that henceforth all the castles and moats would be exactly alike.

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fiscal problem. He went to his treasury and found his reserves insufficient to build all the castles his people desired. So he summoned his economic experts . . . who grew in number day by day since his original decision . . . for advice.

The experts, desirous of getting on the good side of the king, and being rather envious of the employers' castles themselves, pointed out that when the employers received money from sale of the shoes and paid their expenses, they usually had money left over. So they suggested that a part of this left-over money should be paid to the king to defray the cost of the enlarged workers' castles. The king was delighted with the idea and decreed what was to become known as . . . a tax.

Before long, however, the king observed that after the larger castles were built for the workers, they made more and more demands, and the king was forced to decree higher taxes. These advisors had shown a very curious proclivity for saving the king pennies in one place and costing him thousands of dollars in another, especially those that suited their fancy.

While all this taxing was going on, strange things began to happen inside the shoe factories. The employers found that they were paying ever higher taxes to the king . . . and ever higher wages which the king decreed to the shoemakers so they could keep up their enlarged castles. There was little money left to buy new lasts, good quality leather and thread. The employers discovered also that fewer and fewer people were willing to lend them money to repair the factories and machines, or to replace the aging mules which carried the shoes to the markets. So they raised their prices . . . and they kept on raising them again and again.

Although the king was quite bored with the employers' complaints and protests, he became concerned with the shrinking revenues from the shoe factories. So he turned again to his advisors . . . who by now had filled several huge newly-constructed castles. They came up with a remarkable new idea. Since the king needed money badly, why not order his print shop to print more money and give it directly to him? The king is reported to have literally flipped from his throne with joy.

It was almost too good to be true. Everyone suddenly had all the money he wanted. Merchants sold out their wares completely. But as a result of the growing supply of money and prosperity . . . and decreasing supply of goods . . . prices started to go up by the hour. The king was advised to print new money in larger and larger denominations . . . and did.

Nothing like it had ever happened in his country before. "This is really prosperity," people said. The workers were overjoyed for they

now had the bigger castles and the bright colored fish. Then, several events occurred which the king could not understand at all. Suddenly the tired old pack mules were coming home still loaded with the shoes they had taken to the markets. Nobody had bought a single pair of shoes from his country. Word came back that they were buying shoes from other countries for less money. The king's advisors pacified him with the idea that this was but temporary recession.

But then strange merchants began to arrive in his country with their own mules loaded with shoes from faraway places. The king summoned them and observed that their shoes were good and far less expensive. His people rushed to buy them . . . for everybody loves a bargain.

After all the shoe factories in his kingdom had closed down . . . and the shoemakers and employers implored the king to save the kingdom from bankruptcy and hunger, the king retired to his throne room and decided on a course of action. He and his advisors would take over all the shoe factories and make them run effectively again.

The king was not sure of the future . . . but he was sure of one thing . . . the employers had failed him . . . and if he were not a kind and tolerant king, he would have them thrown over a cliff.

The moral appears to be that before you start taking an economic system apart . . . you had better understand how it works . . . for you may be forced to put it back together again, if you get a second chance.



"I can recall quite a few plays of words on initials. But this one rings true: New-est play on JFK—Jobs For Kinfolks."—Elizabeth M. Douthitt, Waller County (Tex.) Record.

"We are glad that South Dakota has never gone into Daylight Saving Time. We never could see any sense in the plan. If people want an extra hour of daylight, why don't they just get up an hour earlier?"—Dean C. Trippier, Canova (S.D.) Herald.

"The United States has 22 million dogs and 40 per cent suffer from halitosis, says a recent scientific survey. I don't question the survey; I'm just glad I didn't have to make it."—James H. Russell Belton (Tex.) Journal.

"The Journal, at some future date, may suggest solutions for the state's and nation's financial problems. Just now, we are too busy trying to solve our own."—James H. Russell, Belton (Tex.) Journal.

Law in Action

The Laws of the Sea

Sea law is one of the oldest branches of law. Venturing seamen have needed recorded rules to govern their affairs. For it's lonesome out at sea with no one around to hear your complaints.

This law became "admiralty" law, and it goes back to about 900 B.C. One of the early rules of the sea—dealing with jettison—is still part of today's laws: If one needs to save a ship in a storm by casting your cargo overboard, the ship and the remaining cargo owners all must chip in to pay the loss incurred for the common safety.

Nations needed uniformity in sea law since commerce is international. Seamen's customs from all the nations became written into laws. Nations have agreed to make the laws largely uniform.

Only the federal courts can hear admiralty cases. Many American court decisions refer to sea law as the law of all nations. In this, admiralty

differs from the landlubber laws. For example:

When two ships collide both owners could be negligent and, if so, the damages will be apportioned depending on the degree of blame. But not on land. Here if you are even slightly negligent you lose your right to damages.

On the high seas seamen have long been subject to strict powers by the captain.

My Neighbors



"Well, I may not have the facts straight, of course, but everything else is true. By George!"

An employer on land has far less power over his workers. In the early days employers often abused seamen until special federal laws were passed to protect seamen's wages, set standards for their employment, and to pay them if they were injured at sea.

Admiralty law also gives the ship its own personality. It becomes a legal entity something like a corporation. A ship has rights. It takes with it the law of the flag it sails under.

Persons who go out to save a ship from peril are entitled to a "salvage" award for their efforts.

A special federal court sits for admiralty cases and has power arising out of activities connected with the high seas.

An admiralty court settles the disputes over contracts as well as personal injury cases that arise on the high seas, and on navigable inland waters, lakes and rivers, if connected with navigation.

Out of the Past

From the Files of the HERALD

30 Years Ago

Only 138 Torrance electors were sufficiently interested in the school board election Tuesday to go to the five polling places in the city and cast their ballots. This represents only one half of one percent of the eligible voting list.

The Bank of America, following similar action by banks elsewhere, announces the reduction of interest paid on term savings from 4% to 3%, effective May 1 in Torrance. J. W. Leech, manager of the local branch, said that the reduction was in line with action taken by the Los Angeles Clearing House. He emphasized that the current rate of interest would be paid to May 1 of this year.

Consumers of the Southern

California Edison Co. Ltd. will save approximately \$766,000 per year through the voluntary rate reduction which the company makes effective on May 1, according to W. C. Mullendore, president. The company's request for the reduction was approved by the Railroad Commission.

Any reduction in wages as a means of solving the present economic condition of the country would seriously affect a return to prosperity because it would reduce the standard of living, a letter to the city council from the County Bureau of Employment Stabilization stated. A five day week was approved by the members present at the meeting.

The old First National Bank of Torrance published an advertisement in the HERALD commemorating its 18th anni-

versary of service to the community. The bank had weathered a stormy period. In 1954 it was merged into the California Bank.

20 Years Ago

A front page editorial in the HERALD of 20 years ago made the modest claim that "Torrance would treble its population if homes were provided" for thousands of workers expected to make their home here for defense work.

Organization of an air raid warden service for Southern California was outlined in detail before a meeting of local chiefs of police in Los Angeles. Fire Chief McMaster from Torrance represented the city at the meeting which stressed the need of preparation for possible enemy attack.

DAILY DIET

TAXES ON UTILITIES, TRANSPORTATION, APPLIANCES — AD NAUSEAM!

YOUR PAY CHECK

JUST WAIT TILL I TAKE MY BITE!

FEDERAL INCOME TAX